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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 02016 190648Z

13
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
---------- 016799
R 190540Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8199
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 2016

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS
SUBJ: CISCO TWO

1. RELIABLE INFO AVAILABLE TO EMB ELEMENTS, INCLUDING MAAG AND DAO, INDICATES THAT IF CISCO TWO ARE TRANSPORTED BY SEA FROM NORTHERN ETHIOPIA TO JIDDA THERE WOULD BE SMALL RISK OF EPMG INTERCEPTION AND CONSEQUENT DANGER TO KIDNAPPEES.

2. EPMG NAVAL PATROLS HAVE SHORT RANGE OF OPERATION AND DO NOT GOT NORTH OF 16 45 N; RPT 16 45 N, NOR DO AIR PATROLS OPERATE NORTH OF THAT LINE AT PRESENT.

3. BULAYKAT WHERE PAIR ARE HELD IS INLAND AT 17 10 N. PLF ALMOST CERTAINLY HAS CAPABILITY OF UTILIZING BEACH-LANDED DHOW AT POINTS NORTH OF PATROL LINE (WHICH PLF LIKELY KNOWS) AND THEREFORE IN EMB JUDGMENT PLF COULD PROBABLY ARRANGE TRANSPORT TO JIDDA WITHOUT MUCH DANGER TO CISCO TWO.

4. AGREE THAT BEST SOLUTION IS FOR PLF TO TURN CISCO TWO OVER TO SUDAN GOVT, AND WE SHOULD WORK FOR THAT RESULT. HOWEVER, IF PLF REMAINS ADAMANT ABOUT JIDDA TURNOVER AND REFUSES TO INVOLVE SUDAN IN TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS, DEPT
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 02016 190648Z

SHOULD RE-THINK ITS PREVIOUS ESTIMATES OF PROBABLE DANGER

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TO CISCO TWO IN RED SEA PASSAGE FROM PLF-HELD COAST NORTH
OF EPMG PATROL LINE.
HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

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